

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03781 180301Z

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ABF-01 AF-08 ARA-06

EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 L-03 H-02 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05

EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /100 W

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R 171756Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9217

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, AFIN, UN

SUBJ: UN FINANCES: COMMITTEE OF 54

REF: USUN 2927

1. AT LUNCHEON WITH MISOFF KEMAL (PAKISTAN) STATED THAT AT MEETING SEPTEMBER 13, G-77 REACHED AGREEMENT THAT G-77 DRAFT GUIDELINES (REFTEL) WOULD BE ISSUED AS PAPER OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF 54 TO SERVE AS BASIS OF NEGOTIATIONS IN COMMITTEE. CHAIRMAN BOATEN CONCURRED. KEMAL REPORTED HE BLOCKED DECISION PENDING RECEIPT OF US COMMENTS ON GUIDELINES.

2. KEMAL SAID SOVIETS HAVE INDICATED INFORMALLY THEY WILL ACCEPT DRAFT GUIDELINES IF G-77 MAINTAINS SOLID FRONT. WHEN QUERIED SPECIFICALLY WHETHER SOVIETS WOULD DISCONTINUE WITHHOLDING, PAY ARREARS, AND PAY IN USABLE CURRENCIES, KEMAL SAID THAT IS SIGNAL HE HAS GOTTEN. THE KEY ELEMENT IN THE GUIDELINES, HE ADDED, IS PAYMENT OF BOND COSTS FROM MISCELLANEOUS INCOME INSTEAD OF FROM EXPENDITURE BUDGET, THUS PERMITTING SOVIETS A FACE-SAVING WAY OF PAYING ASSESSMENTS WITHOUT VIOLATING THEIR QUOTE POSITION OF PRINCIPLE UNQUOTE. WHEN ASKED WHAT ASSURANCES WOULD BE BUILT INTO GUIDELINES TO ASSURE

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PAGE 02 USUN N 03781 180301Z

THAT BOND PRINCIPLE AND INTEREST WOULD BE PAID FROM ASSESSED

BUDGET IN EVENT INCOME PROVED INSUFFICIENT, HE STATED THE KEY IS EARLY PAYMENT OF ASSESSMENT BY US. UN CAN EARN \$10 MILLION A YEAR (HIS FIGURE) IN INTEREST ON US CONTRIBUTION IF PAID IN FEBRUARY, HE ARGUED, AND THE INTEREST WOULD BE THE LARGEST AMOUNT IN INCOME SECTIONS OF BUDGET. FUNDS WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO PAY OFF BONDS AND TO PREVENT DEFICIT FROM GROWING. KEMAL WOULD EXPECT ADEQUATE PLEDGES AT PLEDGING CONFERENCES CALLED FOR IN G-77 DRAFT GUIDELINES TO PAY OFF EXISTING DEFICIT. HE SAID SOVIETS HAVE GIVEN NO INDICATION OF THE SIZE OF THEIR PLEDGE.

COMMENT: KEMAL WAS TOUTING G-77 GUIDELINES OF WHICH HE IS PRINCIPAL AUTHOR. MISOFF BELIEVED HE VIEWED SOVIET INTENTIONS, INCOME TO BE DERIVED FROM EARLIER US PAYMENT, AND PLEDGES TO BE MADE AT PLEDGING CONFERENCES WITH UNDUE OPTIMISM. SUBSEQUENT TO LUNCHEON CONVERSATION LETTER (COPY POUCHED TO IO - HENNES) WAS SENT TO BOATEN FROM GOVERNOR SCRANTON GIVING U.S. GENERAL COMMENTS ON FINANCIAL EMERGENCY AND G-77 DRAFT GUIDELINES. LETTER DREW HEAVILY ON DEPTTEL 222433. LETTER ALSO EXPRESSED U.S. UNDERSTANDING THAT OUR VIEWS WILL BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION IN DRAFTING OF CHAIRMAN'S PAPER WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED TO COMMITTEE OF 54 AS BASIS FOR NEGOTIATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN03781
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760353-0508
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760946/aaaabnge.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 USUN NEW YORK 2927
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <13 SEP 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN FINANCES: COMMITTEE OF 54
TAGS: AORG, AFIN, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006